

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

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APPROVED BY EUR: GSSPRINGSTEEN

EUR: MR. VEST

EUR/ RPM: MR. STREATOR/ MR. MCGUIRE

EUR/ NE: MR. BECELIA

AF/ MR. MACK

NEA: MR. ATHERTON

EUR/ WE: MR. JOHNSON

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P R 252334 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124264

E. O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: ARAB ROLE

REFERENCES: A) ROME 5794; B) VALLETTA 1266; C) VALLETTA

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1276; D) STATE 123233; E) STATE 121875

1. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT RENEWED ITALIAN EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY FOR OBSERVER STATUS AT CSCE FOR ARAB MEDITERRANEAN STATES WILL ONLY SERVE TO ENCOURAGE MINTOFF TO ISSUE FURTHER DEMANDS AT INITIAL CSCE MINISTERIAL WHICH WOULD INVOLVE MINISTERS IN A POTENTIALLY DIVISIVE AND ACRIMONIOUS PUBLIC DEBATE. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE SEEK EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THIS QUESTION AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF MFA, BRINGING TO ATTENTION OF GOI VIEWS WE RECENTLY EXPRESSED TO ALGERIANS HERE (REF. D) AND DRAWING ON FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

2. ALL ALLIES AND MOST OTHER CSCE PARTICIPANTS HAVE LONG SEEMED IN AGREEMENT THAT INJECTION INTO CSCE OF ARAB- ISRAELI DISPUTE OR OF MILITARY ASPECTS OF MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AND THAT, BEYOND REASONABLE GESTURE TO OBVIOUS LINKAGE BETWEEN EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION, CSCE SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH MEDITERRANEAN ISSUES. AT THIS POINT, ANY OTHER APPROACH

COULD CALL INTO QUESTION A BROAD RANGE OF AGREEMENTS OBTAINED AT MPT ON MATTERS OF PROCEDURE AND OF SUBSTANCE.

3. LANGUAGE ON PARTICIPATION AGREED TO AT MPT AFTER LENGTHY AND DIFFICULT DEBATE APPLIES IN OUR VIEW, AND WE ASSUME IN VIEW OF LARGE MAJORITY OF OTHER CSCE STATES, TO ALL THREE STAGES OF CSCE. WE ASSUME ALL ALLIES ARE IN AGREEMENT THAT IT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO ALLIANCE INTEREST TO REOPEN FOR REVIEW AND POSSIBLE REVISION AT INITIAL CSCE MINISTERIAL THIS OR OTHER PORTIONS OF FINAL MPT RECOMMENDATIONS, SINCE TO DO SO COULD PLACE ENTIRE PACKAGE ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK. THIS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE AT HIGHLY PUBLIC INITIAL CSCE MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, WHICH IN ALLIANCE VIEW SHOULD BE BRIEF AND SHOULD AVOID EXTENSIVE TREATMENT OF MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE.

4. THUS, IN OUR VIEW, FURTHER DISCUSSION OF ROLE FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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ALGERIANS, TUNISIANS OR OTHER NON- CSCE MEDITERRANEAN STATES SHOULD BE HELD NOT IN CONTEXT OF PARTICIPATION BUT OF ARRANGEMENTS AGREED TO AT MPT FOR POSSIBLE " CONTRIBUTIONS" BY NON- PARTICIPANTS IN SECOND STAGE OF CONFERENCE. WE HAVE OPEN MIND ON PRECISE ARRANGEMENT THAT MIGHT BE WORKED OUT IN STAGE II FOR COMMITTEES AND SUB- COMMITTEES TO " ACQUAINT THEMSELVES ... WITH

POINTS OF VIEW HELD BY NON- PARTICIPATING STATES ON THE SUBJECT OF THE VARIOUS AGENDA ITEMS". ONE SUCH METHOD MIGHT BE THAT EMPLOYED SUCCESSFULLY AT MPT, WHERE BOTH ALGERIANS AND TUNISIANS PROVIDED VIEWS IN WRITING, WHICH WERE, BY AGREEMENT OF ALL PARTICIPANTS, AVAILABLE IN SECRETARIAT OFFICES FOR PARTICIPANTS TO CONSULT. THIS ARRANGEMENT, COMBINED WITH BILATERAL BRIEFINGS BY PARTICIPATING STATES, MIGHT SUFFICE. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY, APPARENTLY ENVISAGED BY SOME ALLIES, NOTABLY THE FRENCH, THAT TUNISIANS AND ALGERIANS MIGHT BE INVITED ON AD HOC BASIS ORALLY TO STATE POSITIONS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES TO CSCE COMMITTEES AND SUB- COMMITTEES IN STAGE II AT POINT WHEN ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THEM ARE ACTUALLY UNDER DISCUSSION. THESE OR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD, IN OUR VIEW BE DECIDED DURING STAGE II AND SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT OF DEBATE AMONG MINISTERS IN STAGE I.

5. FOR USNATO AND NATO CAPITALS; YOU MAY DRAW ON THE ABOVE IN FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH ALLIES.

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